



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

YAMAMOTO, Shusuke et al.

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MAY 23 2003

Group Art Unit: 3679

Serial No.: 09/688,837

GROUP 3600 Examiner: FERGUSON, Michael P.

Filed: October 17, 2000

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 1853

For. PIN CONNECTION STRUCTURE AND METHOD OF CONNECTING
MEMBERS BY PIN

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: May 20, 2003

Sir:

Reconsideration of the rejection contained in the Office Action dated December 20, 2002, in view of the attached Declaration and the following comments is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 6-10 again were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the patent to Yamamoto et al in view of the patent to Uramoto et al. As before in making this rejection, it was asserted that the Yamamoto et al patent teaches the subject matter of independent claim 6 with the exception of the disclosed pin being surface treated. The Uramoto et al patent was then alleged to supply this teaching deficiency as well as the subject matter of the dependent claims directed to the composition of the pin and the surface layer. Reconsideration of this rejection in view of the attached Declaration and the following comments is respectfully requested.

In response, it is submitted that the Yamamoto et al patent does not teach or suggest the pin connection structure as now defined by the present claims. More particularly, applicants wish to make of record several telephone discussions between Examiner Ferguson and the undersigned regarding the reliance upon Figure 8(a) of the patent to Yamamoto et al in the rejection. Specifically discussed was whether it would be of assistance to submit a Declaration by Mr. Yamamoto, a named inventor in the cited patent, which states that it was not his intention to provide convexity or chamfering on the internal bore of the component shown in Figure 8(a) of his patent. Examiner Ferguson indicated that it would be acceptable to submit a Declaration as described above and such would overcome the rejection based on the Yamamoto et al patent.

Enclosed is an unexecuted Declaration by Mr. Yamamoto stating that it was not his intention to provide convexity or chamfering on the internal bore of the component shown in Figure 8(a) of his patent. An executed copy of this Declaration will be submitted as soon as it is received from Mr. Yamamoto.

For the reasons stated above, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 and allowance of claims 6 through 10 over the cited patents are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

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In the event this paper is not timely filed, the undersigned hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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DWH:rab

Enclosure: Unexecuted Declaration of Mr. Yamamoto